

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ruediger Eiermann et al
Application Number: Unassigned
Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith
Group Art Unit:
Examiner:
Title: DISHWASHER COMPRISING A DRYING APPARATUS

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, I am submitting a completed "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" (*Form PTO/SB/08A*) with patents and/or publications as delineated therein attached.

FR 2 491 322 discloses a dishwasher having a system of conduits 17 extending, in one part, between a lateral wall 18 and a support 19 and having, in another part, a fan 27 and a heating means 28,

DE 100 24 892 discloses that a drying fan (25) removes moist air from a rinsing container during a drying phase. A reservoir device (37) is downstream from the drying fan in the direction of flow for the air being removed. It picks up moisture from this air, stores it until the end of the drying phase and releases it again. The drying fan sucks out the moist air from the rinsing container.

DD 128108 discloses a dishwasher having an air circulating channel via which steam from a washing container, drawn into the channel by a fan, is circulated back to the washing container as relatively dry air, wherein the air circulating channel is configured as a condensation channel 4 and has distributed along its length at least two transversely oriented slots 15.

FR 2 491 319 discloses a dishwasher having an air circulating channel via which steam from a washing container, drawn into the channel by a fan, is circulated back to the washing container as relatively dry air, wherein an air filter 17 is disposed at the inlet to the

air circulating channel, a condensation element 25 is disposed at the outlet of the air circulating channel, and a vapor filter 29 is provided.

EP 1 090 580 discloses that the storage container is a line section of the water supply which includes a water supply unit (16), which is fed from a water supply system and opens out in to a freely flowing stretch. The storage container is surrounded by a water supply container (16), which still has one or more chambers for the respective reception of a further amount of water. The free flowing stretch is surrounded by the water supply container. The rinsing container (2) air is led in an air duct, which is coupled areally, at least partly at the storage container.

EP 1 344 487 discloses that the wash chamber (1) of a dish washing machine has air circulated through a duct (2) during the drying cycle and openings are provided covered by glass plates (12) for the optical sensors (10,30) comprising light emitting and receiving diodes. A dry glass plate results in a received signal.

DE 100 22 088 discloses that the dishwasher has a device (10) for drying dishes, whereby the dishes are heated by circulated hot cleaning liquid and the moisture in the washing chamber and on the dishes is condensed during the drying process by a heat exchanger in a closed circuit with the liquid pumped out. The device has a container (11) filled with cold fresh water or regenerated flushing water during the drying process as the heat exchanger and an air channel (12) with a circulation fan (13) carrying the process air out of the washing chamber (3) in a closed circuit during drying and leading past the container. At least one side wall (15) of the container acts as a channel wall forming a condensation surface.

DE 100 13 416 discloses that the wash chamber (1) has crockery baskets (3) and spray arms (5) and openings (7,8) by which air is drawn out by a fan (9) and cooled by a water container (10) before being returned through a flap valve (11). the flap valve closes when the fan is inoperative.

DE 100 13 415 discloses that the dishwasher has a condensation device and a rinsing space (7). The rinsing space is connected by one or more air channels (2) to at least an outer surface of one or more regenerated water containers. Preferably, the air channels are arranged at least between the regenerated water containers and an outer surface of the rinsing space. Preferably, the air channels connect the rinsing space and at least one outer surface of a supply channel for fresh water, which is arranged between a fresh water supply valve and a free flow path.

DE 31 13 430 discloses that the washing or rinsing machine is equipped with a housing (1) and with a cleaning vessel (2). In the space between the housing and the cleaning

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vessel is arranged a steam condenser (3) which is equipped with an upper steam-inlet connection (4) and with a lower condensate-outlet connection (5). The connections open into the interior of the cleaning vessel (2). The hollow body provided with the said connections and designed, for example, as a pipe coil is fixed in the immediate vicinity of the housing wall (7) or bears against this housing wall. The steam flowing through the steam-inlet connection (4) into the hollow body is precipitated on the inner faces of the hollow body as a condensate. The condensate is guided into the cleaning vessel by way of the condensate-outlet connection (5).

DE 7110279 U discloses a dishwasher having an air circulating channel via which steam from a washing container, drawn into the channel by a fan, is circulated back to the washing container as relatively dry air, wherein a filter 56 is provided via which the air exiting an outlet 60 is subjected to filtering-out of condensation.

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned within the "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the Applicants. As per the Notice in 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-mentioned US patents and US patent application publications are submitted for this application which was filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted



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April 5, 2006

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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First Named Inventor	Reudiger Eiermann et al
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ *Number ⁴ *Kind Code ⁶ (if known)				
		DE 100 22 088	01-04-2001	Ulrich Hettenhausen et		
		DE 100 13 416	09-13-2001	Winfried Steiner et al		
		DE 100 13 415	09-13-2001	Winfried Steiner et al		
		DE 31 13 430	10-21-1982	Klaus Weimbs et al		
		DE 7110279	07-05-1973	Helmut Rapp		
		EP 0 978 250	02-09-2000	Pietro De Filippis et al		✓

Date
Considered

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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